Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 02186 131927Z

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SUBJECT: SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM VISITS VATICAN

SUMMARY: DURING TWO AND HALF HOURS WHEN HE MET INDIVIDUALLY WITH POPE PAUL AND THREE OTHER TOP VATICAN OFFICIALS, SECGEN DISCUSSED VATICAN PARTICIPATION IN UN ACTIVITIES AND SITUATION IN CYPRUS, MIDDLE EAST, VIETNAM AND AFRICA. ACCORDING TO VATICAN NO NEW GROUND WAS BROKEN NOR WAS VATICAN ASKED TO INCREASE ITS ACTIVITIES IN ANY OF THE AREAS DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

1. POPE PAUL RECEIVED UN SECGEN WALDHEIM IN PRIVATE AUDIENCE ON FEB. 11. WALDHEIM WAS ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR VITTORIO WINSPEARE GUICCIARDI, DIRGEN OF THE EUROPEAN OFFICE OF UN, AND MRS. WALDHEIM. VATICAN ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT AFTER VISIT:

BEGIN QUOTE HIS HOLINESS WISHED TO CONFIRM TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS THE ESTEEM AND APPRECIATION, THE HOPES AND GOOD WISHES WITH WHICH THE HOLY SEE LOOKS UPON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, TOGETHER WITH THE ENCOURAGEMENT WHICH IT GIVES, ESPECIALLY TO THE INITIATIVES INLIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 ROME 02186 131927Z

TENDED TO PROMOTE PEACE, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE PROGRESS

OF ALL PEOPLES, ON THE BASIS AND IN THE REAFFIRMATION OF THE HIGHEST ETHICAL AND LEGAL PRINCIPLES WHICH ARE THE IDEAL AND STATUTORY FOUNDATION OF THE GREAT ORGANIZATION.

REVEALING THAT THE UNITED NATIONS, AS AN INSTITUTIONAL FORM WHICH THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS CREATED TO PREVENT AND HELP TO REVOLVE CONFLICTS WITH JUSTICE AND EQUITY AND TO PROMOTE MUTUAL COOPERATION ON THE EVER GREATER AND MORE COMPLEX PROBLEMS WHICH CONFRONT MANKIND, FINDS ITSELF BEFORE RESPONSIBILITIES EQUAL TO THE HIGH OBLIGATION WHICH IT HAS ASSUMED. HIS HOLINESS POPE PAUL VI DISCUSSED WITH HIS ILLUSTRIOUS GUEST IN PARTICULAR THE PROBLEMS OF PEACE IN CYPRUS AND THE MIDDLE EAST, THE QUESTION OF JERUSALEM AND THE DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SITUATION IN VIETNAM, AS WELL AS SEVERAL AREAS OF AFRICA.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL, IN EXPRESSING HIS AND THE UNITED NATIONS' KEEN RECOGNITION FOR THE CONSTANT SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT GIVEN BY THE HOLY FATHER TO THE WORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND FOR THE VARIED PARTICIPATION OF THE HOLY SEE IN ITS ACTIVITIES, REPEATED TO HIS HOLINESS ASSURANCES OF THE TIRELESS EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND HIMSELF TO ACCOMPLISH THE PURPOSES SET OUT BY THE ORGANIZATION AND FOR AN EVER MORE COMPLETE RESPONSE TO THE TASKS WHICH HUMANITY ENTRUSTS TO IT.

AT THE END OF THE AUDIENCE, MRS. WALDHEIM AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S PARTY WERE ADMITTED TO THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY FATHER.

DURING THE MORNING, HIS EXCELLENCY DR. WALDHEIM HAD CALLED ON HIS EMINENCE JEAN CARDINAL VILLOT, SECRETARY OF STATE, AND MET WITH H.E. AGOSTINO CASAROLI, SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OF THE CHURCH. END QUOTE.

2. RANKING VATICAN OFFICIAL INFORMED US FEB. 13 THAT MAIN EMPHASIS OF WALDHEIM'S DISCUSSIONS WAS VATICAN PARTICIPATION IN UN AND VARIOUS UN AGENCIES. VATICAN INTERLOCUTORS MADE CLEAR TO SECGEN THAT, DESPITE PRESSURE FROM SEVERAL QUARTERS, HOLY SEE HAD NO INTENTION TO SEEK FULL MEMBERSHIP IN UN AND OTHER AGENCIES WHERE THEY PRESENTLY HAVE OBSERVER STATUS. HOLY SEE FEELS FULLY ABLE TO FULFILL ITS MISSION AS OBSERVER AND FEARS THAT FULL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ROME 02186 131927Z

MEMBERSHIP, WITH ITS RIGHT TO VOTE, WOULD MERELY POLITICIZE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN AN UNACCEPTABLE WAY. SOURCE ASSURED US THAT NO NEW GROUND WAS BROKEN IN DISCUSSIONS OF CYPRUS, MIDDLE EAST, JERUSALEM, VIETNAM OR AFRICA. QUESTION OF EVENTUAL HOLY SEE PARTICIPATION AT GENEVA CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EAST DID NOT ARISE. AFRICAN PORTION OF DISCUSSIONS CONCENTRATED ON SITUATION IN ADDIS ABABA WITH POPE EXPRESSING PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO PERMIT RED CROSS RELIEF MISSIONS INTO

ERITREA ON GROUND THAT ETHIOPIA HAS RELIEF AND SUPPLY SITUATION
TOTALLY UNDER CONTROL. POPE SAID HE HOPED WALDHEIM COULD CON-
VINCE ETHIOPIANS OF NEED TO ACCEPT RED CROSS ASSISTANCE. VOLPE

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